

WEEK 2 - A LIVING HOPE (1st Peter 1:3-9)

1st Peter 1:3-9 (NIV)

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a **living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, **5** who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. **6** In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to **suffer grief in all kinds of trials**. **7** These have come so that the proven genuineness of your **faith**—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. **8** Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an **inexpressible and glorious joy**, **9** for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

GROUP QUESTIONS:

1. In your own words, what does it look like in your life as you hope in the Lord? Or how does the hope He gives actually play out in your life?
2. In being honest with yourself, how do you normally respond to trials in your life? Why do you think you respond that way?
3. Does anyone have a testimony of how a trial or challenge actually refined your faith and built even more trust in the Lord?
4. What is one thing you can take from these verses and meditate on in the coming days and put into practice in your life?